

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of managing a cabling system comprising the ordered steps of:

first, (a) —providing one or more cables with a machine readable identifier; and providing one or more locations with a machine readable location identifier;
then, (b) —locating the cable or cables at one or more of said locations; and,
thereafter, (c)—reading by machine said cable identifier or identifiers and said location identifier or identifiers, generating a list of cable locations based on the read identifiers and storing said list for later retrieval.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the or each cable is provided with a cable identifier at each terminal thereof and the list generated includes data for determining cable connections from the cable identifiers.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the or each cable is provided with the same identifier at each of its terminals.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, including the step of providing a hand-held device for machine reading the cable and location identifiers.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, including providing a central processor connectable with the hand-held machine for the download of read identifiers, a master list being stored within the central processor.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, including providing a connection of the hand-held machine to the central processor which is wireless.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, including the step of identifying components from the cable and location identifiers, the list including data relating to the components and thereby of the connections between components.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, including the step of identifying changes that have occurred in the recorded connections within a specified period of time.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, including the step of integrating data and voice configuration information into a structured cabling and equipment browser to provide a single view of all information related to the structured cabling channel and services provided.

10. (Previously Presented) A cabling management system comprising a machine readable cable identifier for use with one or more cables, a machine readable location identifier for use at one or more locations, an identifier reading device operable to machine read said cable identifier or identifiers physically applied to a cable or cables and said location identifier or identifiers physically applied to a location or locations and to generate a list of cable locations based on the read identifiers, and machine readable memory means operable to store said list for later retrieval.

11. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein a cable identifier is provided at each terminal of a cable and the list generated includes data for determining cable connections from the cable identifiers.

12. (Original) The system of claim 11, wherein each cable is provided with the same identifier at each of its terminals.

13. (Original) The system of claim 10, wherein the identifier reading device is a hand-held device.

14. (Original) The system of claim 10, further comprising a central processor connectable with the hand-held device for the download of read identifiers, a master list being stored in a machine readable memory accessible to, or within, the central processor.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the connection of the hand-held device to the central processor is wireless.

16. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the central processor is operable to identify components from the cable and location identifiers, the stored list including data relating to the components and thereby of the connections between components.

17. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the central processor is operable to identify changes that have occurred in the recorded connections within a specified period of time.

18. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the central processor is operable to integrate data and voice configuration information into a structured cabling and equipment browser to provide a single view of all information related to the structured cabling channel and services provided.

19. (Previously Presented) A system for managing a structured cabling system of the type including ports and cables, comprising: machine-readable identifiers physically applied to the ports and the cables in said structured cabling system; one or more hand-held devices equipped with a machine-readable identifier reader to record moves and changes by scanning said machine-readable identifiers applied to said ports and cables; one or more computer readable memories for storing details of equipment, its location and type in a relational database on the hand-held devices; means for synchronising any moves or changes stored on the hand-held devices with a desktop system or server; and wireless local area network technology to synchronise the hand-held device with the desktop system or server.

20. (Currently Amended) A method of recording or auditing connections in a structured cabling system comprising the ordered steps of:

| first, (a)——labelling both ends of each patch cord with same identifier, the identifiers being unique for all patch cords and labelling each port in the cross connect with a unique identifier;

| then, (b)——using a hand-held scanner to record sequentially the identifiers of each port and the identifiers of the cable connected to it;

| thereafter, (c)——inferring which ports are connected together by correlating the identifiers on the cables without the need to trace the physical cables; and

| finally, (d)——utilising a one-click approach to making, breaking and auditing connections optimised for the changing of connections in patch-panels.